

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A reinforced molded article comprising:

a main portion having opposing major surfaces defining a thickness of said main portion;
and

a protrusion integrally molded with said main portion and protruding from one of said surfaces, said protrusion having a thickness of less than the thickness of said main portion and less than about 0.1", said protrusion having a height of at least twice the thickness of said protrusion,

said main portion and said protrusion being formed from a material comprising at least one thermoplastic, and reinforcing particles, the reinforcing particles comprise about 2% to about 15%, by volume, of a total volume of the material,

said reinforcing particles each comprising one or more layers, at least 50% of said reinforcing particles being less than about 20 layers thick, at least 99% of said reinforcing particles being less than about 30 layers thick, said layers comprising platelets having a thickness of between about 0.7 nm and 1.2 nm, and wherein at least some of the reinforcing particles are not completely exfoliated and are about 30 layers thick.

2. (Original) A reinforced molded article according to claim 1, further comprising a decorative material adhered to an opposite surface disposed on a side of said main portion opposite said one of said surfaces.

3. (Previously presented) A reinforced molded article according to claim 2, wherein said decorative material is made from a material selected from a group consisting of vinyl, poly(vinyl chloride)/acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, thermoplastic olefin, polypropylene, and thermoplastic polyurethane.

4. (Previously presented) A reinforced molded article according to claim 2, wherein said decorative material is made from fabric, or carpeting.

5. (Previously presented) A reinforced molded article according to claim 4, wherein said decorative material further includes at least one of a bonded foam layer and a film layer disposed in contact with said opposite surface.

Claims 6-10 (Withdrawn)